



TIETOARKISTO
FINNISH SOCIAL SCIENCE
DATA ARCHIVE

Repository certification

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- Why repository certification
- TDR certification options
- CoreTrustSeal
- Trust Support
- Challenges, lessons learned

Why repository certification 1/2

- Repositories are a vital part of FAIR data ecosystem
 - The [Turning FAIR into Reality Report](#) proposes a model “denoting the minimal components needed to offer an ecosystem that enables the creation, curation, and reuse of FAIR Digital Objects in an effective and sustainable way”.
Repositories are a key element in this FAIR ecosystem.
- The [FAIR Working Group of the EOSC Executive Board](#) considers the CoreTrustSeal as the right level for research data repositories
 - and recommends that the CoreTrustSeal+FAIR approach proposed by the FAIRsFAIR project should be extensively tested
- Certification may be required by funders or other stakeholders

Why repository certification 2/2

- Formal certification is a good way to demonstrate trustworthiness to data depositors, users, funders and to other stakeholders.
- By submitting an application for review, the repository's procedures and documentation are evaluated by external professionals; the repository gains independent insights on how it may evolve and mature to further increase its trustworthiness
- Certification schemas can be used for self-assessment to recognize gaps and to improve processes, procedures, documentation and transparency
- Existing public certifications allow us to learn from our global peers and do benchmarking

TDR certification options

- Trustworthy digital repositories make and keep data FAIR over time
- [European framework](#) (2010)
 - Basic certification: DSA (predecessor of CoreTrustSeal)
 - Extended certification: structured, externally reviewed and publicly available self-audit based on ISO 16363 or DIN 31644
 - Formal certification: full external audit and certification based on ISO 16363 or equivalent DIN 31644
- In this talk, my focus is on CoreTrustSeal certification

CoreTrustSeal: Building Trust to Support Open Science

- Not for profit and community-based
- Global and domain agnostic
- Low barrier to entry
 - evidence based on the information needed to run repository services
- Objectives
 - enable repositories to safeguard data
 - ensure high quality
 - guide reliable management of data for the future
- More information: <https://www.coretrustseal.org>

CoreTrustSeal Requirements

Hervé L'Hours, Ilona von Stein, Frans Huigen, Anusuriya Devaraju, Mustapha Mokrane, Joy Davidson, ... Robert Huber. (2020). D4.2 Repository Certification Mechanism: a Recommendation on the Extended Requirements and Procedures (Version 01.00). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3835697>

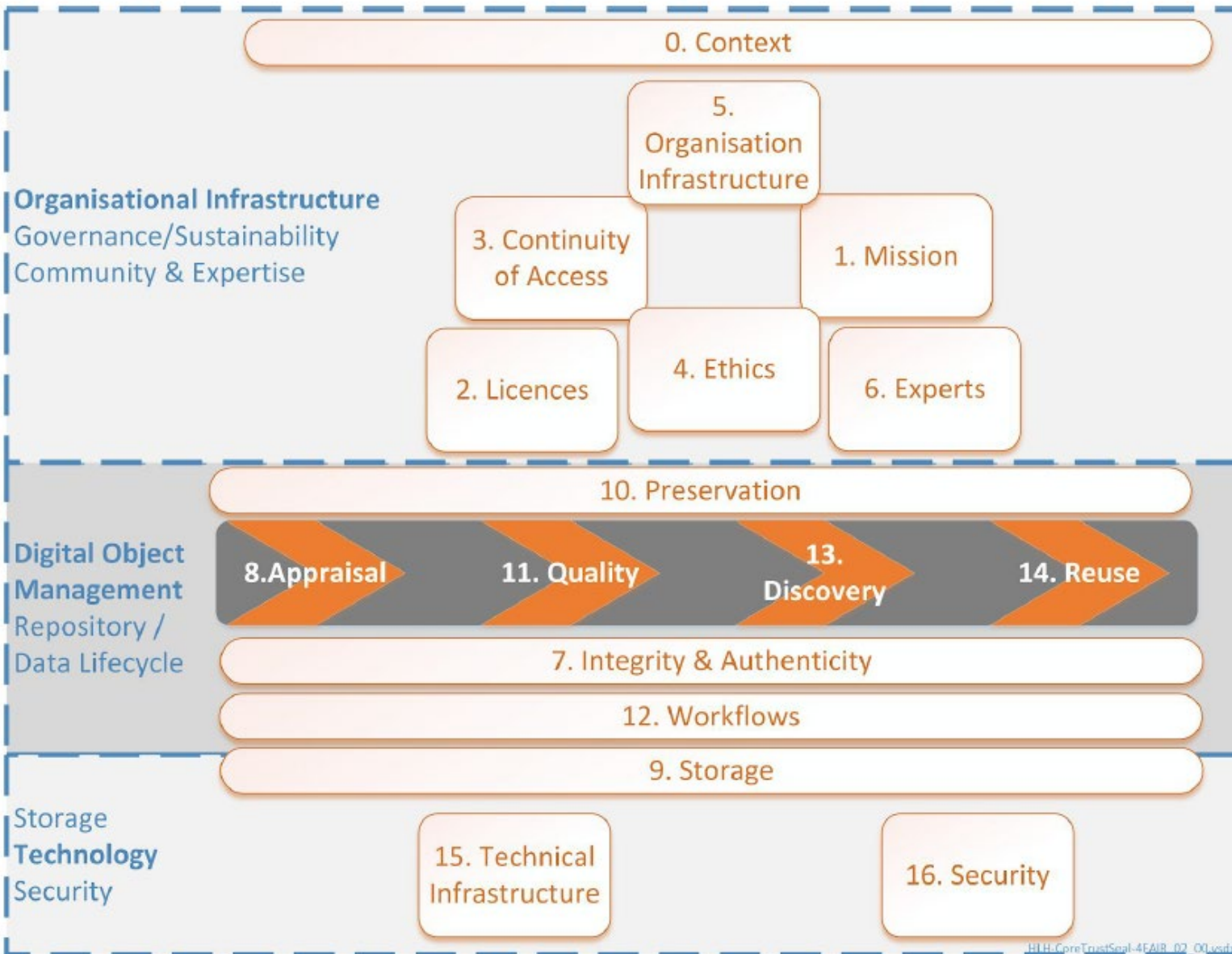
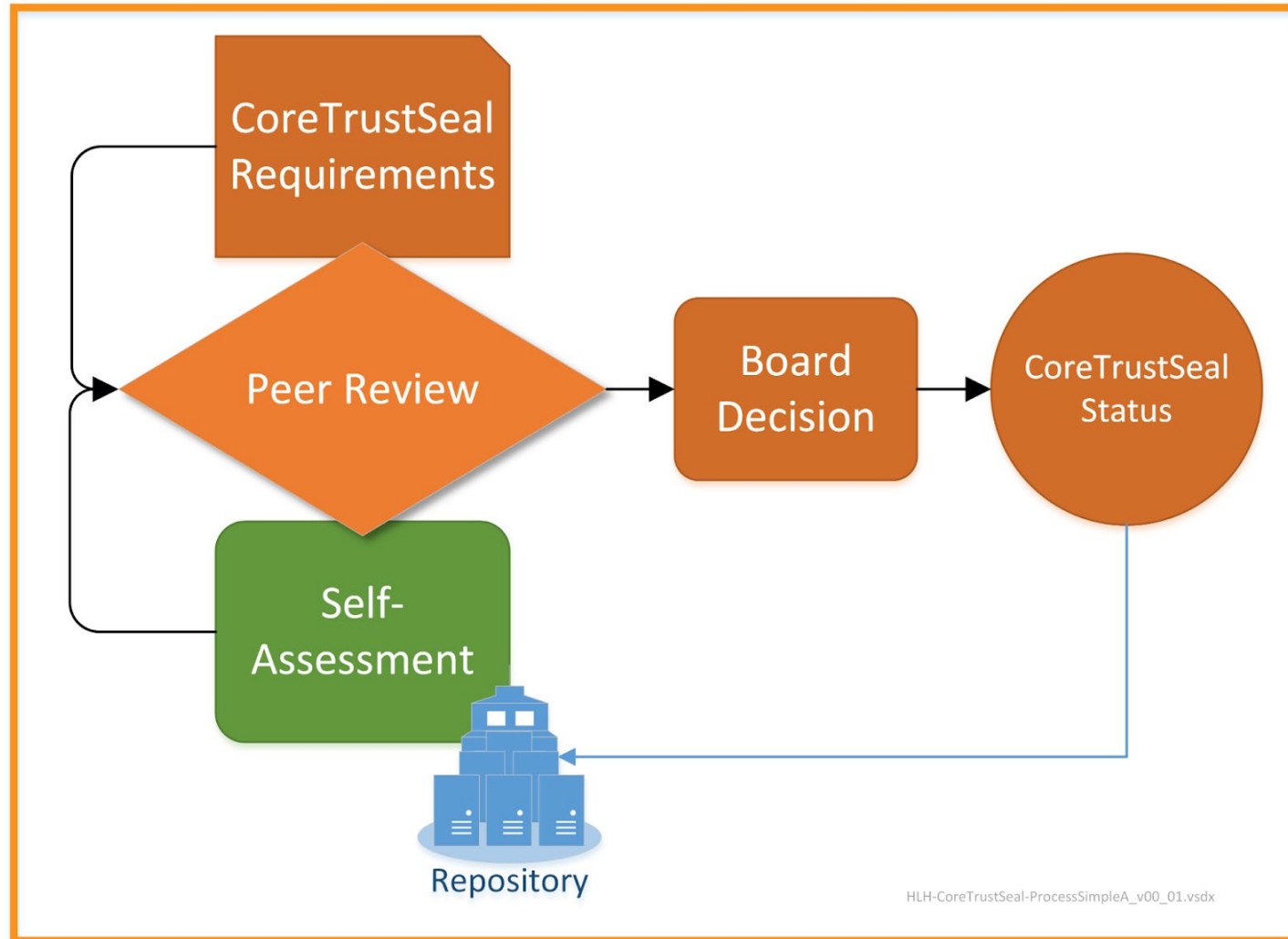


Diagram 4: CoreTrustSeal Requirements in Brief

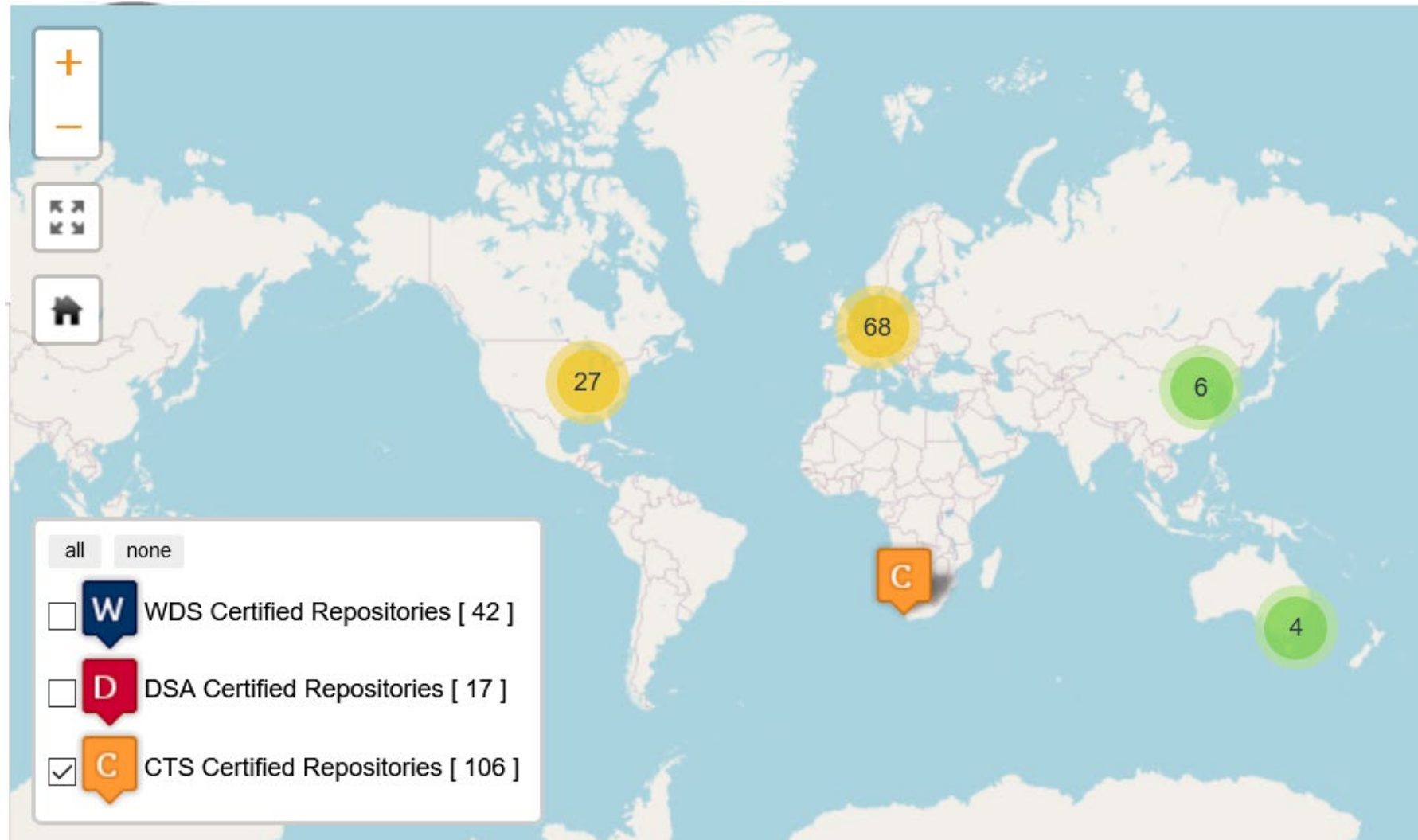
CoreTrustSeal certification process



- [CoreTrustSeal Board 2018-2021](#)
 - [Assembly of Reviewers](#)
 - [CoreTrustSeal Requirements 2020-2022](#)
- More information on governance:
[Statutes and Rules of Procedures](#)

Source: L'Hours, Recker, Kleemola (2021). What's new, CoreTrustSeal. Presentation at IASSIST 2021 Global Virtual Conferece, May 2021.

Current CoreTrustSeal uptake

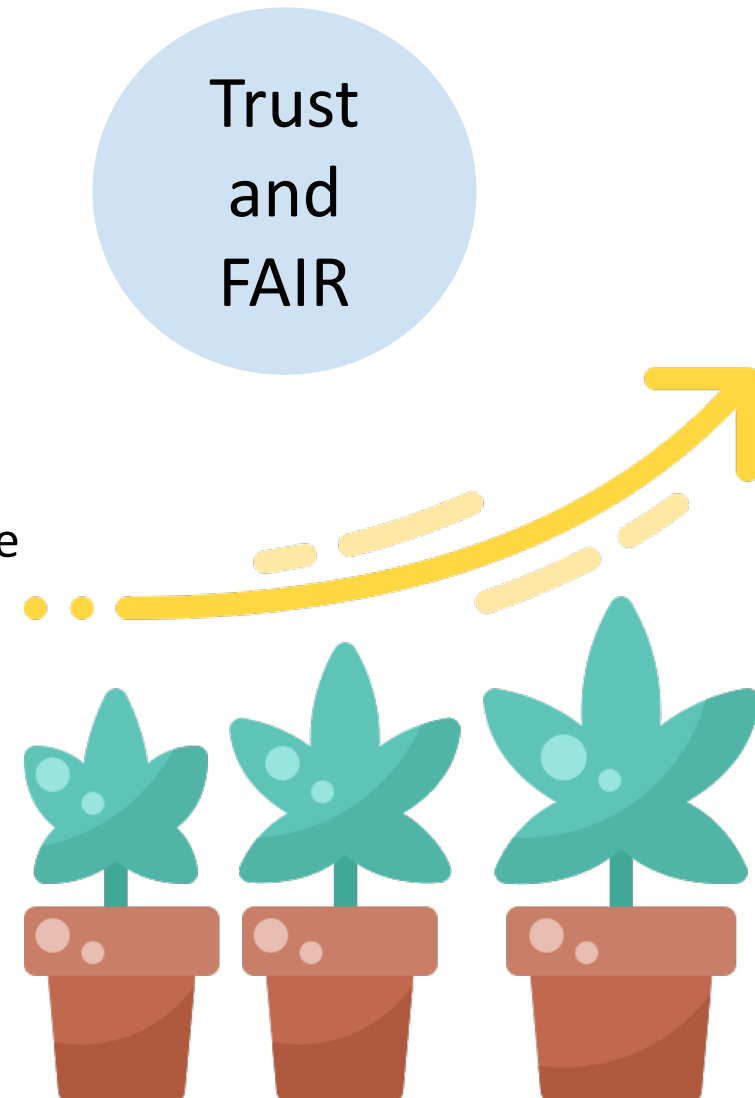
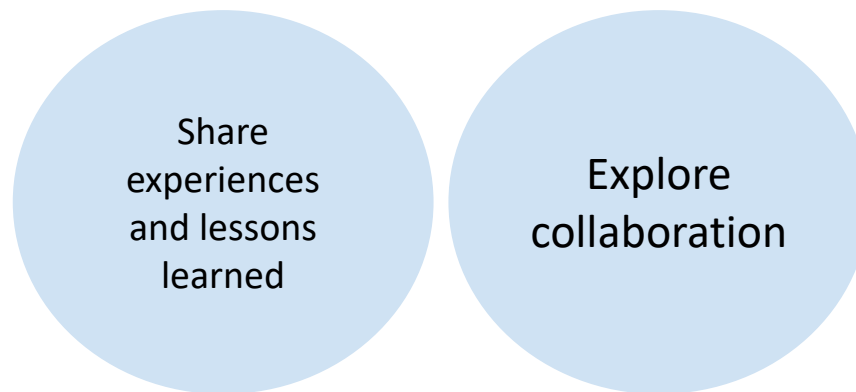


<https://www.coretrustseal.org/why-certification/certified-repositories/>

Growing together

Repository support initiatives, e.g.

- ARDC, Australia
- Portage Network, Canada
- Enabling FAIR Data CoreTrustSeal cohort (AGU)
- [FAIRsFAIR](#) support programme helps repositories to become more FAIR-enabling
- Similar support by: [CESSDA ERIC](#), [SSHOC](#), [EOSC Nordic](#)
- The FAIRsFAIR [Synchronisation Force](#) maintains a dialogue across the EOSC and FAIR ecosystems



Modified from: Linas Cepinskas, presentation at FAIRsFAIR All hands, April 8, 2021

Challenges, lessons learned

- Repositories have different starting points on their journey towards trust and FAIR
- Needs of the Designated Community are paramount
- There are complex partnerships across the data lifecycle
- Tailored trust support is needed
- Formal CoreTrustSeal certification is not for all but everyone can use (selected) Requirements for self-assessment
 - CoreTrustSeal Board has summarized issues in a paper: [CoreTrustSeal: Specialists, Generalists, and Technical Repository Service Providers](#)
 - Vital to recognise specialities (domains and disciplines) **BUT** CoreTrustSeal to remain domain-agnostic
 - Repository partners providing third party services: demand for guidance and recognition more than certification

Thank you!

You might find this interesting, too:

EOSC-Nordic WP4 Workshop:

From Self-Assessment to Certification with FAIR Results

Tomorrow 3 Jun 2021 at 09:00 (Europe/Copenhagen)

<https://indico.neic.no/e/wp4-certification-workshop>